

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 386

By Miller

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Woods Memorial Hospital District on receiving Solucient's 2004 *100 Top Hospitals: Performance Improvement Leaders Award*.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to honor those exemplary institutions that are celebrating milestones in their venerable existence and that have dedicated their resources to improving the quality of life for this State's citizens; and

WHEREAS, renowned for excellence in the medical care it provides, Woods Memorial Hospital District has long been a valued institution in the Etowah community and has earned recognition as one of the winners of Solucient's 2004 *100 Top Hospitals: Performance Improvement Leaders Awards* in the Small Community Hospitals category; and

WHEREAS, Solucient performs a study of proprietary five-year trending methodologies to understand how hospitals are executing performance improvement over time; those hospital executives receiving Solucient's prestigious award are true leaders who have affected a culture of change in their organizations and who have initiated performance improvement programs and facilitated organization-wide improvement more consistently and at a faster rate than their peer hospitals nationally; and

WHEREAS, Performance Improvement Leaders made the following gains on average: they improved from having more patient deaths, complications, and adverse safety events than expected to having fewer than expected; they discharged patients three-quarters of a day earlier; they increased their expenses by only seven percent while other facilities' expenses increased twenty-one percent; and they transformed their institutions from being unprofitable into facilities maintaining a healthy positive profit margin of four and one-half percent; and

WHEREAS, Woods Memorial Hospital District was established under the Hill-Burton Act in 1965, after a group of community leaders and elected officials with a vision decided to act on their dream of creating a health care system to serve the people of McMinn County and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, this fine institution was named in memory of Carrie Alice and George Woods, Sr., at the request of their son, George Woods, Jr., a former Tennessee Speaker of the House of Representatives from Etowah who was instrumental in establishing the hospital; and

WHEREAS, owned by the people of McMinn County, Woods Memorial Hospital District is a non-profit hospital that operates a nursing home, home health agency, emergency medical service, regional dialysis center, Level III Trauma Center, and other services under a single organization; and

WHEREAS, Woods Memorial is completely self-supporting and does not rely on taxpayers for financial support; and

WHEREAS, with approximately 300 full time employees and a medical staff of more than seventy-five physicians representing numerous specialties, Woods Memorial Hospital District is ideally suited to meet the medical needs of its community; and

WHEREAS, Woods Memorial Hospital District is affiliated with and managed by The Baptist Health System of East Tennessee, which provides the hospital with unique opportunities for its patients, employees, and medical staff, such as group purchasing, physician recruitment, and obtaining specialists; and

WHEREAS, due to the Woods Memorial's drive for excellence, The District consistently receives high marks, scoring 92 out of a possible 100 in the latest survey conducted by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations in January 2003; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly pause to recognize this state-of-the-art facility that serves the medical needs of the citizens of McMinn County and surrounding communities with quality care and compassion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that that we thank the administration, physicians, and staff of Woods Memorial

Hospital District for their ongoing commitment to the health of the citizens of McMinn County as exemplified through their receipt of Solucient's 2004 *100 Top Hospitals*: Performance Improvement Leaders Award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we congratulate the administration, physicians, and staff of Woods Memorial Hospital District upon their receipt of this noteworthy award and offer our best wishes for much continued success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.